

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1-8 (Canceled).

9. (Previously Presented): A client computer having a display device used in an image communication system in which an image server storing film image data representing an image and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

a first transmission device transmitting, to said image server, a command to transmit a thumbnail film image data generated from the film image data stored in said image server, the thumbnail image data having been subjected to display direction conversion processing;

a second transmission device transmitting, to said image server, display information relating to said display device, said first and second transmission devices transmitting the respective command and display information to reduce the amount of film image data that said image server is required to process; and

a receiving device receiving the film image data reduced on the basis of the display information in said image server.

Claims 10 – 18 (Canceled).

19. (Previously Presented): A client computer used in an image communication system in which an image server having an image output device for outputting a film image and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

an image data quantity reduction device for reducing the data quantity of film image data to be transmitted to said image server, so that the data quantity of the film image data to be transmitted is equal to or less than the data quantity of the film image data representing the film image to be outputted from said image output device; and

an image data transmission device for transmitting the reduced film image data to said image server,

wherein said image data quantity reduction device further includes:

print image area designation means for designating an image area to be printed of an image represented by film image data of one frame; and

partial image data extraction means for extracting partial image area data representing the designated image area from said film image data of one frame.

20. (Previously Presented): The client computer according to claim 19,

wherein said image data quantity reduction device includes at least one of resolution conversion means for converting the image data to be transmitted into image data having a resolution which is less than or equal to the resolution of the image output from said output device, so as to reduce the quantity of the image data, and thinning means for thinning the image data such that the size thereof is equal to the size of the output image.

Claim 21 (Canceled).

22. (Previously Presented): The client computer according to claim 19, wherein said image data quantity reduction device further includes:

compression rate determination means for determining the compression rate of the image data to be transmitted to said image server on the basis of the speed of transmission of the image data between the image server and said client computer, and

image data compression means for compressing the image data at the determined compression rate.

23. (Previously Presented): A client computer used in an image communication system in which an image server and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

a compression rate setting device for setting the compression rate of film image data;
a calculation device for calculating information relating to time required for transmission in a case where the film image data compressed at the set compression rate is transmitted to said image server; and

a display device for displaying the information relating to the calculated time for transmission.

24. (Previously Presented): The client computer according to claim 23, further comprising a display control device for exhibiting control so that an image represented by the image data compressed at the set compression rate is displayed on said display device.

25. (Previously Presented): An image communication system in which an image server and a client computer are capable of communicating with each other, wherein film image data and information relating to the film image data are transmitted from said client computer to said image server,

wherein said image server further includes:

an image output device for outputting a film image after subjecting the film image to display direction conversion processing, on the basis of the information relating to the film image data transmitted from said client computer; and

an image information transmission device for transmitting, to said client computer, the information relating to the film image data transmitted from said client computer,

wherein said client computer further includes a retrieval means for retrieving image data specified by the information relating to the film image data transmitted from said image server, and

wherein said image output device and said image information transmission device in said image server, and said retrieval means in said client computer are each separate and distinct components within the image communication system.

Claim 26 (Canceled).

27. (Previously Presented): A method of transmitting film image data from a client computer to an image server, the client computer and the image server being used in an image communication system in which the image server, having an image output device for outputting an image and said client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

reducing the data quantity of film image data to be transmitted to said image server so that the data quantity of the image data to be transmitted is equal to or less than the data quantity of the image data representing the image to be output; and

transmitting the reduced film image data to said image server

wherein the step of reducing further includes:

designating an image area to be printed of an image represented by image data of one frame; and

extracting partial image area data representing the designated image area from said film image data of one frame.

28. (Previously Presented): A method of displaying information in a client computer which is used in an image communication system in which an image server and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

setting the compression rate of film image data;

calculating information relating to time required for transmission in a case where the film image data compressed at the compression rate is transmitted to said image server; and

displaying the calculated information related to the transmission time.

Claims 29-30 (Canceled).

31. (Previously Presented): A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for transmitting film image data from a client computer which is used in an image communication system in which an image server having an image output device for outputting an image and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, the program controlling the computer so as to:

reduce the data quantity of film image to be transmitted to said image server such that the data quantity of the film image data to be transmitted is equal to or less than the data quantity of the film image data representing the image to be outputted from said image output device; and

transmit the reduced film image data to said image server

wherein said program further controls film image data reduction processing in the computer so as to designate an image area to be printed of an image represented by film image data of one frame, and extracts partial image area data representing the designated area from said film image data of one frame.

32. (Previously Presented): A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for displaying information in a client computer which is used in an image communication system in which an image server and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, the program controlling the computer so as to:

set the compression rate of film image data;

calculate information relating to time required for transmission in a case where the film image data compressed at the set compression rate is transmitted to said image server; and

display the calculated information related to the transmission time.

Claims 33-34 (Canceled).

35. (Previously Presented): An image editing system in which an image server and a plurality of client computers are capable of communicating with one another, an image represented by film image data is edited in one of said client computers, and editing information relating to the edited film image is transmitted from said one client computer to said image server,

wherein execution data indicating that an image is edited for the first time or re-edited after said initial editing is transmitted from said one or another client computer to said image server prior to initial editing or subsequent re-editing the film image,

wherein said image server further includes:

a judgment device for judging whether or not the initial editing or re-editing after said initial editing is allowed on the basis of said transmitted execution, and

an allowance data transmission device for transmitting, when said judgement device judges that the initial editing or re-editing after said initial editing of the image is allowed, allowance data to said one or another client computer which has been allowed to edit or re-edit the film image, and

wherein said one or another client computer further includes a control device for performing the initial editing or re-editing after said initial editing in response to the receiving of allowance data.

36. (previously presented): The image editing system according to claim 35, wherein said re-editing information transmission device transmits information relating to a portion re-edited by said image re-editing device.

Claim 37 (Canceled).

38. (Previously Presented): The image editing system according to claim 35, wherein said plurality of client computers are classified into a plurality of groups, each group including one or more of said client computers, and wherein said image server further includes a transmission device for transmitting said re-editing information transmitted from said re-editing information transmission device to said client computer, in the group to which the one or another client computer which has transmitted the re-editing information belongs.

39. (Previously Presented): The image editing system according to claim 38, wherein said one or another client computer further includes:
a comment entry device for entering a comment concerning said editing or re-editing information which has been transmitted from said image server, and
a comment transmission device for transmitting the entered comment to said image server.

40. (Previously Presented): The image editing system according to claim 35, wherein said edited image is constituted by a plurality of object images, and object image editing request data which indicates that said object images are subjected to object image editing which is at least one of addition, alteration, and deletion, said edited image being transmitted from the one or another client computer to said image server,

wherein said image server further includes:

an object image editing judgment device for judging whether or not said object image editing is allowed on the basis of said transmitted object image editing request data, and

an object image editing allowance data transmission device for transmitting, when said object image editing judgment device judges that said object image editing is allowed, object image editing allowance data for allowing said object image editing to the one or another client computer which has been allowed to edit the object image, and

wherein said one or another client computer further includes an object image editing device for performing said object image editing in response to the receiving of said object image editing allowance data.

41. (Previously Presented): A client computer constituting a system in which an image server and a plurality of client computers are capable of communicating with one another, comprising:

an image editing device for performing initial editing of a film image and subsequent re-editing of the initially edited film image;

a receiving device for receiving data representing allowance of the initial editing or subsequent re-editing of the film image, which is transmitted from the client computer; and

a controller for controlling the image editing device so as to execute initial editing of the film image, or subsequent re-editing of the edited image in response to reception of the allowance data by the receiving device.

42. (Previously Presented): An image editing system in which an image server and a plurality of client computers are capable of communicating with one another, an image represented by image film data is edited in one of the client computers, and editing information relating to the edited image is transmitted from the one client computer to said image server,

wherein execution data indicating that a film image is initially edited or re-edited after said initial editing is transmitted from said one or from another of said plurality of client computers to said image server prior to editing or re-editing the film image,

wherein said image server judges whether or not the initial editing or subsequent re-editing of the film image is allowed on the basis of said transmitted execution data, and transmits, when said judgment device judges that the initial editing or subsequent re-editing of the film image is allowed, allowance data to said one or another client computer which has been allowed to edit or re-edit the film image, and

wherein said one or another client computer performs the initial editing or subsequent re-editing in response to receiving allowance data.

43. (Previously Presented): The image editing system according to claim 42, wherein information relating to a re-edited portion is transmitted from said one or another client computer to said image server.

Claim 44 (Canceled).

45. (Previously Presented): The image editing system according to claim 42,
wherein said plurality of client computers are classified into a plurality of groups, each group including one or more of said client computers, and
wherein said re-editing information is transmitted to that client computer in the group to which said re-editing information belongs.

46. (Previously Presented): The image editing system according to claim 45, wherein a comment concerning said editing or re-editing information is transmitted to said image server.

47. (Previously Presented): The image editing system according to claim 42, wherein said edited image is constituted by a plurality of object images, and object image editing request data which indicates that said object images are subjected to object image editing which is at least one of addition, alteration, and deletion, said edited image being transmitted from the one or another client computer to said image server, wherein said image server further includes:

an object image editing judgment device for judging whether or not said object image editing is allowed on the basis of said transmitted object image editing request data, and

an object image editing allowance data transmission device for transmitting, when it is judged that said object image editing is allowed, object image editing allowance data for allowing said object image editing to the one or another client computer which has been allowed to edit the object image, and

wherein said one or another client computer further includes an object image editing device for performing said object image editing in response to the receiving of said object image editing allowance data.

Claims 48-49 (Canceled).

50. (Previously Presented): The image editing system according to claim 35, wherein said image server further includes an editing information transmission device for transmitting editing information relating to the edited image which has been transmitted from said one client computer to another client computer; and wherein said one or another client computer further includes: an image re-editing device for re-editing the edited image transmitted from said image server; and a re-editing information transmission device for transmitting re-editing information relating to the re-edited image to said image server.